

# Catamount Spirit

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## Coplin to Receive Alumni Achievement Award

Lloyd Coplin, this year's recipient of the Alumni Achievement Award, earned his associate's degree in engineering from Potomac State College of WVU in 1953 and his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from WVU in 1956.

Coplin worked for Goodyear Aerospace from 1956 to 1964 as a design engineer, designing systems such as reconnaissance airplane radar, shipboard radar, flight simulators, and ballistic missile early warning systems. In 1964, Coplin transferred to Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, where he remained until his retirement in 1998.

## Distinguished Service Award Recipients



### Jack Canfield

Jack Canfield is a 1961 graduate of Potomac State College. He is a former *Pasquino* editor, former press spokesman for three West Virginia governors, former member of the West Virginia Legislature, a former radio and television broadcast journalist, and currently owns a marketing and public relations firm in Charleston, W.Va.

As a member of the Potomac State College Board of Advisors, Canfield was chair under two presidents and headed the provost search for the College. He also assisted with the transition of Potomac State becoming a fully integrated, two-year division of West Virginia University.



### Anthony "Skip" Delligatti

Anthony "Skip" Delligatti graduated from Potomac State College in 1958 and has been an avid supporter ever since. He participates regularly in Homecoming events and Athletic Hall of Fame Banquets; he actively recruits, and over the years has served on many alumni committees.

Skip currently serves on the Alumni Board and is chair of this year's Alumni Golf Outing. For many years, he has organized an alumni dinner in the Fairmont, W.Va. area.

Skip is very passionate when speaking of his time spent at Potomac State. His accomplishments as a student athlete and beyond led him to be inducted into the PSC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1999.

## President Garrison Visits

"I wanted to come to you, to learn, listen and hear from you the employee," stated WVU President Michael Garrison at a recent forum held at Potomac State College of WVU. Garrison was true to his word, talking with employees, alumni and townspeople during his visit to the Keyser, W.Va. campus.

While here, Garrison met with Provost Kerry Odell and was given a tour of the campus, including the new residential complex. "I am terribly impressed with everything I've seen," he told those attending the forum, adding, "Kerry – you've done a wonderful job."

Garrison took the helm from David Hardesty, Jr. as president of WVU on September 1, 2007. The official inauguration ceremony is planned for October 19 at Woodburn Circle on the downtown campus in Morgantown.



President Michael Garrison (second from left) enjoys a moment with one of his former teachers, Anthony "Skip" Delligatti (left, also an alumnus of PSC), Skip's wife, Linda, and Campus Provost Kerry Odell. Garrison, who has known the Delligattis since childhood, recently had their grandson in a class he taught at WVU.



## Bennear to Receive Young Alumni Award

Kevin Bennear, baritone vocalist and concert moderator with "The President's Own" United States Marine Band and 1992 graduate of Potomac State College of WVU, has been chosen as the recipient of this year's "Young Alumni Award."

Staff Sergeant Bennear joined the band in January 2000 and has served as a soloist at White House State Dinners and is a featured performer in the annual musical productions of Washington's Gridiron Club and the Military Order of the Carabao.

He performed at the funerals of former Presidents Ford and Reagan and sang at a traditional church service prior to President Bush's second inauguration, which included the families of the president and vice president.

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## Cooper Added to Academic Achievement Wall



Dr. Reginald R. Cooper was honored by having his name inscribed on the Duke Anthony Whitmore/Henry Louis Gates, Jr. Academic Achievement Wall this past spring during the 2nd Annual Weekend of Honors.

Cooper was a pre-med major at Potomac State from 1948 to 1950 and continued his education at West Virginia University, the Medical College of Virginia, the University of Iowa, Northwestern University, and the University of Chicago. He completed his residency at the University of Iowa where he later became head of Orthopaedics.

While in the military, Cooper served as an orthopaedic surgeon at the United States Naval Hospital. He was also Chief of Rehabilitation Medical Service at the V.A. Hospital in Iowa City, Iowa.

Cooper, a native of Dry Fork, W.Va., was a recipient of the Alumni Achievement Award in 2003.



## Provost Odell and Chef Vieli Visiting Switzerland

Campus Provost Kerry Odell and Chef Thomas Vieli, instructor in Hospitality and Tourism, traveled to Switzerland this summer to discuss the opportunities of a study abroad program for students attending Potomac State College of WVU.

The study abroad program would be in conjunction with Schiller International University, a worldwide, global educational system that offers graduate and undergraduate students the advantages of an international education.

Schiller has long been known as "the" international university. The University is unique in that it offers American degrees on its campuses. Having met with administrators at Schiller in Switzerland, Odell said, "Switzerland is a beautiful country where the old blends seamlessly with the new. It's a place rich in culture and history where differences in beliefs and backgrounds are valued and diversity is embraced. I believe it will be a wonderful place for our students to gain the study abroad experiences that they desire and that today's employers are expecting."

## Retirees Reception

Potomac State College of West Virginia University recently held its second annual retirees luncheon. Approximately 25 former employees returned to campus where they had the opportunity to visit with current employees during a reception. They received an update regarding campus happenings from the Provost during lunch and toured the new residential complex. Pictured from left are Linda Little, George Little, former head of the Business Office; Libby Nichols, current Alumni/Development Associate; Tim Nichols, current Director of Student Support Services; Thelma O'Connor, former Assistant Librarian; and Tom O'Connor, former Instructor.



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## Bennear to Receive

Bennear sang during a PBS special, "In Performance at the White House," that was featured on Nightline in 2003 and performed the National Anthem on ESPN for Monday Night Football in honor of the 5th anniversary of September 11.

He performs across the country during the band's annual concert tour and was the soloist at Potomac State's Centennial Celebration in 2001.

Bennear said that the most memorable, heartfelt moment came in 2002, one year after September 11th as he sang the National Anthem while President Bush unfurled the flag over the restored Pentagon.



## Homecoming 2007.....

### Our Heritage...Their Future

Fall is quickly approaching and the College is anxiously awaiting the arrival of new and returning students. The new residential complex will be ready for occupancy and will include a theatre, a fitness center, and dining hall with new options. Our library has undergone renovations, and the indoor riding arena has been erected. Many other upgrades are currently underway. We hope you are planning to attend **Homecoming** scheduled for the weekend of **October 12-14**. We think you will be pleasantly surprised with all of the growth and excitement on campus.

Homecoming kicks off on **Friday, October 12**, with the annual 50's Get Together at the Candlewyck Inn beginning at 6 p.m. The cost of the buffet is \$17.50 and includes a non-alcoholic drink, dessert, tax and gratuity. Reservations are required and the deadline is October 5. Contact Pat Hovis at (304) 788-4065 or email [phovis@gcnetmail.net](mailto:phovis@gcnetmail.net) for more information.

On **Saturday, October 13**, the Welcome and Coffee Hour & Recognition of Anniversary Classes '57, '82, and '97 will be held in the small banquet room located in the new residential complex from 9 until 10:30 a.m. Campus Provost Kerry Odell will provide a presentation explaining new campus initiatives at approximately 10 a.m.

If you are a golfer, you might want to participate in the Potomac State Alumni Golf Outing, which will be held at the Fore Sisters Golf Course, on **Saturday, Oct. 13**, at 9 a.m. The cost is \$40 per person. Reservations can be made by contacting Libby Nichols at 1-800-262-7332 or 788-6870.

Other activities scheduled for Saturday include an open house and picnic on the upper farm, a session for parents, an intra-squad scrimmage, and tours of our new and upgraded facilities. The day will culminate with the **Awards Banquet** which is being held in the former Potomac Café. The social hour will begin at 5:30 and dinner at 6 p.m. The cost for the dinner is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. Reservations are required and we are asking you to respond no later than October 5. Information is available on-line at [www.potomacstatecollege.edu](http://www.potomacstatecollege.edu) under Alumni and Friends or by contacting Libby Nichols at 1-800-262-7332 or 788-6870. After the banquet, we will be entertained once again by the amazing Teal Steel Band. The concert will be held in the Lough Gymnasium and is free of charge.

As former students of Potomac State, your goals, paths and accomplishments, together with faculty, staff, friends, and mentors have shaped your heritage here at the College. It is now your knowledge, experience and guidance that can be offered to current students and through the continuum of time, help shape their future. After all, only through education do we discover our past, our future, ourselves.

For complete and updated information regarding all Homecoming events, visit our Web site at [www.potomacstatecollege.edu](http://www.potomacstatecollege.edu).

### 2006-2007 Sports Highlights

**Baseball**—The Catamounts finished with a 32-13 record making this their eighth straight season with 30 wins. They claimed the Region XX Championship marking their fourth straight title and seventh Region XX title in eight years. Potomac State was also the Eastern District Runner-Up this year.

**Golf**—The Catamounts were 52-9-1 last fall and won the WPCC Conference Championship. Jessica Jewell, the first female ever to play golf at PSC, placed 44th out 89 golfers in the NJCAA Women's National Golf Championship in Daytona Beach, Fla. Donnie Marple was also a qualifier for the National Tournament.

**Women's Basketball**—Potomac State finished the most successful season in school history with a trip to the Junior College Women's Basketball National Tournament in Phoenix, Ariz. The Lady Cats made it to the third round of play before being stopped by the No. 2 ranked team in the country, Carl Sandburg. The Lady Cats finished with a 30-5 record, achieving the first 30-win season in the history of the program.

**Soccer**—As a result of the 2006 season, the soccer team won their first Region XX Championship, the District IV Title, and a trip to the NJCAA Division III Final Four. The team also had their first soccer player, Gaz Tomlinson, to be named a first-team All-American.



### Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

(Left - right) Shawn White, Director of Athletics and Men's Basketball Coach, presented Brendan Dougherty, Elaine Lyon and Dan Ingram each with a plaque during the Twentieth Annual Athletic Hall of Fame banquet at Potomac State College of WVU. Dr. Kerry Odell, Provost of the College, congratulated the recipients on being honored.



## Armentrout Named 2007 "Professor of the Year"



Assistant professor of English Deanna Armentrout was chosen as the 2007 "Professor of the Year" at Potomac State College of WVU. Armentrout began her career at Potomac State College in the fall of 1998 as a visiting instructor in English. In addition to teaching,

Armentrout initiates field trips

for students, serves as the advisor of the Equestrian Club, heads the Service Committee, is a member of the Assessment Council and was a former humanities coordinator.

Armentrout has also served as the team captain of Potomac State's "Catamounts Fighting Cancer" Relay for Life team for five years.

Presenting the award was Professor Phil Douthitt (left) who also serves as Chair of Faculty Assembly and Campus Provost Kerry Odell (right). The award was presented this past spring during the 2nd Annual Weekend of Honors.

Through your estate plans, you can become a member of the Dr. Ernest E. and Katharine "Church" Society. For more information, contact Libby Nichols at (304) 788-6870.

## Mary Becker Recognized as Outstanding Staff Member of the Year

Mary Susan Becker, an accountant and accounts payable manager in the Business Office, was recognized for her exceptional service as the 2007 Outstanding Staff Person of the Year, during this past spring's 2nd Annual Weekend of Honors. Becker, who is also an alumna of the College, celebrated her 29th anniversary as a PSC employee on May 8, 2007. A comment made by one of Becker's fellow employees who nominated her for this award stated, "Mary is responsible for the majority of the College's budgetary process including but not limited to expenditures, income reporting, and accounting procedures, etc. To say her job is stressful is a major understatement. Her interactions are always courteous and professional; she exhibits qualities essential to her particular job – attention to detail, integrity, honesty, initiative, flexibility, and dedication. Her knowledge and level of expertise are unsurpassed."



## Final Newsletter ???

It is up to you. With rising costs and lack of funds, we are advising you that this may be our final alumni newsletter. The Potomac State College Alumni Association operates solely on private donations; therefore, we need your support.

### Please help us!

Make your check payable to the  
PSC Alumni Association, and mail it to the  
Alumni Office,  
101 Fort Avenue, Keyser, WV 26726.

Otherwise, we will keep you informed of campus events  
and initiatives through the College's Web site [potomacstatecollege.edu](http://potomacstatecollege.edu).